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FALL 2016  
VOLUME 12 • ISSUE 2

# NEMONT *TODAY*



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# NEMONT TODAY

## A NOTE FROM NEMONT'S CEO, MIKE KILGORE

**Time flies by quickly.** It seems like yesterday when my wife and I dropped our oldest daughter off at college. This spring, we attended her graduation.

**Speaking of things moving quickly, let's talk about broadband.** You need high-speed Internet for today's growing number of devices and online activities. What is Nemont doing to provide this? To answer that, I need to share a little bit about regulatory and technology changes, as well as a big dose of reality. First, the reality. Nemont is proud to serve some of the most remote and sparsely populated areas of the country, and we value the rural lifestyle. However, this comes with a higher cost to deliver advanced communications services, which is why the regulatory environment is so important.

**Along with your patronage, we're heavily dependent on the Universal Service Fund (USF) to help cover the costs of bringing essential services to rural areas.** The FCC has worked to transform this fund from a system that supported landline telephone service to one that supports broadband. New USF rules will soon take effect to lay the foundation for 10 Mbps/1 Mbps Internet speeds.

Nemont didn't wait for these new rules to develop our own broadband strategy. We started in 2005 and completed our first exchange upgrades in Glentana, Larslan, and Opheim in 2007. Since then, it's been full speed ahead — deploying fiber deeper into the network, shortening copper loops, and advancing from 1.5G cellular to 3G. We're now working on our 4G strategy, involving the deployment of entirely new wireless technology.

**Our commitment to the communities we serve extends to local events and organizations.** In Williston, we sponsored the Babe Ruth World Series and provided free Wi-Fi throughout the tournament. We've also launched Nemontfiber.net to help us target fiber expansion projects throughout Williston.

Since it's back-to-school time, consider upgrading your home's Internet speeds now. The students in your life will thank you for it!



FALL  
16

## GET NEMONT & GET CONNECTED

### Crow Agency, MT

Monument Center, Suite 1  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri

### Glasgow, MT

702 2nd Ave S  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri

### Plentywood, MT

115 W 2nd Ave  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri

### Poplar, MT

604 Assiniboine Ave  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri

### Scobey, MT

61 Hwy 13 S  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri

### Williston, ND

1135 2nd Ave. W. Suite 206  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. CST Mon-Fri

### Wolf Point, MT

220 Benton St  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri

### Worden, MT

2457 Main St  
9 a.m. - noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Mon  
8 a.m. - noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Thurs

### Visit our website at

[www.nemont.net](http://www.nemont.net) or check  
out our Facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/  
NemontCountry](http://www.facebook.com/NemontCountry).

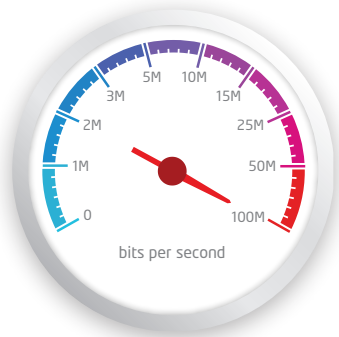
### NEMONT WILL BE CLOSED

- 09/05 – Labor Day
- 11/11 – Veterans Day
- 11/24 – Thanksgiving Day



# MANY FACTORS CAN AFFECT YOUR INTERNET SPEED

If you've tested your Internet speed at [www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net) or a similar site and it's not what you expected, your first thought might be to contact your Internet Service Provider. Keep in mind, however, that a number of things could be decreasing your Internet speed. They include:



## Multiple Devices Connected Simultaneously

Does your household have multiple laptops, tablets, game consoles, and smartphones? This can reduce the overall Internet speed each device receives, since when multiple devices are connected simultaneously to the same network, they must share the available bandwidth.

## Bandwidth-Demanding Applications

Applications such as streaming movies and TV shows, playing online games, and video conferencing will consume more bandwidth than things like checking email, so they can reduce your overall Internet speed.

## Poor Computer Performance

The culprit for disappointing speeds could be your computer — such as an old and unstable operating system or insufficient memory. In addition, if your computer is infected with adware or spyware, you may experience diminished computer performance and a stream of pop-up ads. This will likely cause everything on your computer to work more slowly.

## Insufficient Wireless Router

Wireless router specification is an important factor in your home's Internet performance. If an older router that does not support high speed is used, Internet speed will be correspondingly reduced. For example, if you are signed up for 40 Mbps service and your outdated wireless router only supports up to 10 Mbps, your Internet speed will only reach up to about 10 Mbps. Buying a new 801.11ac router is one of the best ways to make sure your network is as fast and reliable as possible.

## Interference in Your Home Network

Other wireless devices — such as older cordless phones, baby monitors, some security cameras, and microwaves — can cause interference in your home, weakening your wireless router's signal and affecting your Internet speed.

Nemont can answer questions about home networks and help you get the Internet speed you need. Call us at 800-636-6680 to learn more.

## 7 HOMEWORK TIPS FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Here's a refresher course in homework basics to share with the young students in your family:

1. Use a quiet room with an uncluttered desk and a supportive desk chair.
2. Sit up straight in the chair to get your blood flowing evenly and help prevent drowsiness.
3. Start by writing a to-do list of your homework, ordering your tasks from hardest to easiest.
4. Do the hardest tasks first.
5. Stay off Facebook, Twitter, or anything else that will distract you.
6. Speak aloud as you do your homework. This works to maintain focus and reinforce concepts. It can be especially helpful when doing math problems.
7. When you can't seem to finish an assignment no matter what you try, stop and switch to another task for awhile. This can help clear your head. After you're feeling more positive, take a fresh look at that challenging assignment.

**Good luck to all students, parents, and teachers during this upcoming school year!**





# BUYERS PREFER HOMES WITH FIBER-OPTIC CONNECTIONS

According to a survey commissioned by the Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) Council, very high speed Internet service via fiber is considered the most important amenity for a future home purchase, among homebuyers.

The national survey by RVA LLC Market Research and Consulting shows that 82 percent of those buyers who have had broadband service over FTTH rank it as the leading amenity in a future home, and nearly 70 percent of those who hadn't had FTTH say it's the amenity they want most in a future home.

*Not only does our fiber-optic network enhance the performance of Internet and other services, it also enhances the value of homes.*

Other amenities against which fiber-optic connections were compared included green space or walking, jogging, biking trails; community parks and pools; 24-hour neighborhood patrols; and fitness centers/clubhouses. The only thing that came close to very high speed Internet access from a direct fiber line was green space/walking or jogging trails, with scores of 62 percent among current FTTH users and 65 percent among non-FTTH users.

These survey results send a clear message to the real estate market: If a home for sale has a fiber optic connection available, you should clearly advertise that fact. Fiber is a sought-after feature among today's homebuyers, and not every home can offer this valuable amenity.

Keep in mind that fiber-optic connections — unlike adding a pool or a deck — are an amenity that homeowners usually can't choose to get on their own. Most often, the communications provider in a community has to decide to invest in a fiber-optic network and bring that network to particular neighborhoods or streets.

Nemont is proud to bring FTTH to our service areas. Not only does our fiber-optic network enhance the performance of Internet and other services, it also enhances the value of homes. Put simply, having FTTH-based service available to your home could help it sell more quickly, and for a higher price, than it would otherwise.



# THE INTERNET OF THINGS (IoT) INCLUDES MANY SMART OBJECTS

There's a lot of talk these days about the Internet of Things (IoT). But just what is it? The IoT is a collection of objects represented and connected virtually through the Internet. This means that ordinary things will be identified with electronic tags that will allow them to send information to other devices, enabling people to interact with the objects in helpful ways.

For example, a smart refrigerator might send information to your smartphone about what's inside, so you can do a grocery run on the way home from work without having to go home to check what's running low. A fitness bracelet might measure your body fat and suggest tailored fitness plans. Or a toothbrush might evaluate your brushing technique and alert you to spots in your mouth you've missed.



There seems to be no limit to possibilities offered by the IoT. A leading networking company, Cisco, estimates that the number of devices connected to the Internet will grow four times to 50 billion by 2020 from about 13 billion in 2014. Those billions and billions of connected devices — more than seven things for every person on Earth — will generate massive amounts of data that can reshape the way the world lives and works.

## We can look forward to a wide range of benefits from the IoT, including:

- **No more passwords!** Devices will have fingerprint and retinal scanners to identify users.
- **Healthier world.** Sensors will provide information about air quality, sewers, and other locations to determine the impact of our activities on the environment.
- **Better emergency response.** Cars will send details about crashes so emergency responders can plan ahead.
- **Improved health.** Pill bottles will be equipped to flash lights or send messages when a patient forgets to take a dose.
- **Increased safety.** Buildings will have monitors that measure the severity of earthquakes, so occupants will know when to evacuate.

Nemont has invested in a fiber network to make sure our customers have access to the high-speed Internet required to take advantage of tomorrow's technologies. To learn more, visit [www.nemont.net](http://www.nemont.net).



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disconnect and a wake time  
for morning when they  
can reconnect.

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# NEMONT AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL STUDENTS

Nemont is honored to recognize academic achievement and believes that supporting educational endeavors aids in strengthening our communities. We award one-time \$1,000 scholarships each spring, and the application is open to students in high school, trade school, and college as well as non-traditional students.

We congratulate these recipients of the 2016 Nemont scholarships and wish them success as they continue their educations.



**Delaney Bell**  
Hinsdale, MT



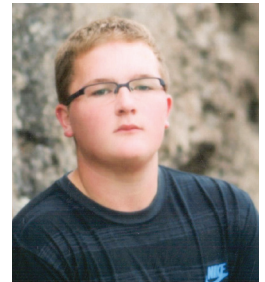
**Autumn Brimer**  
Absarokee, MT



**Monica Brown**  
Wolf Point, MT



**Maycie Brunelle**  
Williston, ND



**Cooper Crabtree**  
Columbus, MT



**Dylan Cromwell**  
Scobey, MT



**Logan Gunderson**  
Glasgow, MT



**Paige Harris**  
Plentywood, MT



**Samantha Holte**  
Bainville, MT



**Jace Paryzek**  
Williston, ND



## MOLLIE SIMONSON RECEIVES FRS SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) offers 30 college scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each. These FRS scholarships are available to rural high school seniors sponsored by members of the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA). As an NTCA member, Nemont sponsored Mollie Simonson and was pleased to be able to award her with \$2,500. Best of luck to you, Mollie!

*Mike Kilgore, Nemont CEO, presents FRS check to Mollie Simonson.*



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Area events listed are free of charge. Submit your events by the 21st of October so that they may appear in our next issue. Send to: PO Box 600, Scobey, MT 59263-0600, Attention: Community Calendar or email to nemonttoday@nemont.coop

## SEPTEMBER

- **09/03-05 Saco Fun Days**  
Saco, MT
- **09/03-05 Culbertson Wagon Train**  
Culbertson, MT
- **09/03-05 Living History Weekend**  
Fort Union, ND
- **09/10 Bakken X-trek Mud Run**  
Williston, ND
- **09/10 Opportunity Foundation Darrell Schmidt Memorial Golf Tournament**  
Williston, ND
- **09/16 Glasgow Homecoming Parade**  
Glasgow, MT

## OCTOBER

- **10/01 Nemont Telephone Cooperative Annual Meeting**  
Scobey, MT
- **10/07 Pheasants Forever Banquet**  
Flaxville, MT
- **10/08 Daniels Memorial Healthcare Foundation Fall Festival**  
Scobey, MT

## NOVEMBER

- **11/04 Museum Auction & Wine Tasting**  
Wolf Point, MT
- **11/05 Autumn Harvest Bazaar**  
Glasgow, MT
- **11/18-20 Antelope Dinner Theatre**  
Antelope, MT
- **11/25 Holiday Lights Parade (Harmon Park)**  
Williston, ND
- **11/25-27 Holiday Clay Fest at Klind Pottery**  
Hinsdale, MT
- **11/26 Christmas Stroll & Parade of Lights**  
Glasgow & Scobey, MT



## WIN A \$25 CREDIT!

You could win a \$25 credit on your Nemont account. To enter, answer the trivia questions and fill out this official form, then drop it by one of our offices or mail it to: **PO Box 600, Scobey, MT 59263-0600 Attn: Drawing**. Faxed, duplicated, emailed or photocopied entries will not be accepted. Winners will be contacted by phone and listed in the Winter 2016 issue.

**Congratulations to the winners from the Spring 2016 issue in our three service areas:** C.A. Gaustad and Julie Amadon (Project), Loring Johnson and Tom Dhuyvetter (MVC), and Alice Halverson and Yolanda Perkins (Nemont).

## \$25 CREDIT OFFICIAL ENTRY

**What is the four-letter abbreviation for how bandwidth is measured?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**How many connected devices to the Internet are estimated for 2020?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_



PO Box 600  
 Scobey, MT 59263-0600  
 1-800-636-6680 or 406-783-2200



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- Samsung GS6 64GB for 32GB Price
- Samsung GS7 get a Free Wireless Charger



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1GB local data for \$10 is only available for new smartphone customers. 64GB Smartphone for 32GB price is for Samsung GS6 and GS6 Edge with 2 year contract. Free wireless charging pad with the purchase of a Samsung GS7, GS6 Flat or GS6 Edge smartphone. A 2 year contract is required. Contact customer service for more details. Some restrictions apply. Offer ends September 30th, 2016.



1.800.636.6680

## NEMONT WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Marie Pippin</b><br>Customer Service Specialist | <b>Trey Girard</b><br>Vehicle Washer         |
| <b>Matt Sansaver</b><br>Construction Technician    | <b>Stephanie Fuhrman</b><br>Plant Accountant |

## WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM?

- Outside Plant Engineer**  
Williston, ND
- Financial Analyst**  
Scobey or Billings, MT
- Customer Service Specialist**  
Scobey or Glasgow, MT
- Accounting Supervisor**  
Scobey, MT

Visit [www.nemont.net](http://www.nemont.net) to view more details about all open positions and fill out an application form.